

Fight In Congress To Repeal Unpopular Conscription Act Will Soon Start

PLANS are under way in Washington for starting the fight in congress to repeal the unpopular conscription law. It is expected that a joint resolution will be drawn up for introduction at the same time in both the senate and house of representatives. It will be charged that the act is unconstitutional, congress having no power to draft an army to be sent out of the country in a war with a foreign foe. The American Socialist will keep its readers in touch with every move made in this great struggle.

This paper has been paid for, if not by you, then by some one who wants you to read it.

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304

CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1917.

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Is Washington Back Of Indictment Of Germer And 12 Others At Grand Rapids? May Clear Mystery at Hearing, June 25

The indictment of Adolph Germer, national secretary of the Socialist Party, with 12 others, charged with conspiring to circulate Socialist literature that might hinder registration, in the federal courts at Grand Rapids, Mich., gives rise to the question:

"Is the attorney general's office at Washington back of these cases or were they only hatched by a local prosecuting attorney looking for notoriety on his own initiative?"

This mystery will no doubt be cleared up at the hearing set for Monday, June 25, on the demurrer to the indictment.

The demurrer has already been filed with the federal court for the Western District of Michigan citing 17 reasons why there is no basis for the indictment returned against National Secretary Germer and 12 others including Glenn G. Fleiser, Benjamin A. Faulkner, James W. Clement, Sr., Glenn H. Panghorn, Benjamin Blumenberg, Daniel Roy Freeman, Charles J. Gallahan, Charles G. Taylor, Klass W. Osterhuis, Martin E. Elziga, Viva Flaherty and Vernon Kilpatrick.

Among these are two clergymen, a member of the board of education and a woman social worker, while two are not even members of the Socialist Party. The first knowledge of the indictment received at the national office of the Socialist Party in Chicago, as reported in last week's American Socialist, was a telegram from Attorney S. Wesselsius, of Grand Rapids.

National Secretary Germer did not wait to have the papers in the case served on him but immediately got in touch with Attorney Seymour Stedman, arranged for bail and went to Grand Rapids to answer to the charge.

While the legal papers from Grand Rapids were therefore being received in Chicago, for service on the Socialist Party's national secretary, Germer, accompanied by Stedman, arrived in Grand Rapids and voluntarily gave himself up to the court and bail was fixed by the much surprised Judge Sessions at \$1,000. This was immediately furnished.

The indictment contains six counts, complaining especially against the distribution of the Socialist Party Anti-War Proclamation and Program adopted at the St. Louis Convention, the leaflet, "The Price We Pay," and another leaflet containing extracts from speeches delivered by Sherwood, Vandaman and Huddleston in congress. This leaflet concluded with the words, "Repeal The Conscription Law."

Objections To Indictment.

The various points set forth in the demurrer to the indictment are as follows:

1. Insufficient for want of a distinct and adequate specification of an overt act as required by law.
2. Fails to charge a crime.
3. Insufficient for want of a distinct and adequate specification of any overt act as required by law cognizable by the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Michigan, Southern Division.
4. Insufficient in that it fails to set forth the contents, the substance or the purport of the leaflet known as No. 5 of the series of organization leaflets to be issued monthly by the National Office, Socialist Party of Chicago, Illinois, and entitled to wit: "Proclamation and War Program," and the leaflet entitled to wit: "The Price We Pay," purporting to be by Irwin St. John Tucker and bearing the imprint, to wit: "Subscribe to the American Socialist," and a printed folder ending as follows, "Repeal the Conscription Act."
5. Insufficient in that it fails to show that any person or persons who were requested, urged or solicited to refuse failed as a result of said alleged conspiracy to comply with the Registration Act, approved May 18, 1917, or the Proclamation of the President of the United States under date of the 5th of June A. D. 1917.
6. Insufficient in that they fail to set forth the nature and the cause of the accusation against the defendants with reasonable certainty.
7. Insufficient in that the offense purporting to be stated is by way of inference.
8. Attempts to state an offense by way of recital.
9. Insufficient for the reason that the offense is stated by way of conclusion.
10. That the first count of said indictment is insufficient in that it does not appear to have been founded upon the oaths of the grand jurors and failing to state an offense in the recitation of the purported title of certain printed documents whereby no offense is set up, the said count continues "and by other unlawful ways and means" and thereafter recites alleged conduct on the part of Daniel Roy Freeman without alleging the conduct of said Daniel Roy Free-

Act approved May 18, 1917, as alleged in said count.

14. That count 5 of said indictment is insufficient in that said count does not set forth in substance or in haec verba the contents of the written instrument, printed leaflets or literature therein referred to and fails to state the contents or meaning of the leaflets or literature to which said defendants are charged with unlawfully agreeing to carry out and consummate.

15. That count 6 is insufficient in that it charges an alleged offense of conspiring to resist by force or otherwise the execution of certain laws either before or thereafter enacted.

16. The 6th count is insufficient in that it is in the alternative, that is, alleges a purported conspiracy to defeat the execution of laws in existence or thereafter to be enacted; that said 6th count is insufficient in that it recites an attempt on the part of the defendants to interfere with the enforcement of a law providing for registration of Naval and Military Forces of the United States of America and then and thereafter declared between the United States of America and the Imperial German Empire.

17. That said 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th counts are insufficient in that they are repugnant and are bad for duplicity.

Leaflets Do Not Violate Law.

None of the leaflets complained of urge the violation of any law in any way. One million two hundred thousand of the anti-war proclamation have already been issued and distributed, in addition to having been published in full by practically every Socialist newspaper in the country. The war proclamation also appeared as the majority report on the 100,000 ballots sent out in the party referendum of the United States of the leaflet, "The Price We Pay" have also been disposed of, in addition to being widely republished in the Socialist press.

Many additional orders are being received for both of these leaflets in every mail. The federal authorities in Chicago, as well as in many other parts of the nation, have had copies of these leaflets in their possession for weeks, without any arrests having been made, altho many Socialists distributing these leaflets have been detained and questioned but later released.

One of the first telegrams received by Germer upon his return to Chicago from Grand Rapids was from Henry M. Tichenor and Phil. Wagner of the

Social Revolution, of St. Louis, as follows: "We have just learned of the indictment against you. We are with you to the finish."

Attorney Clarence Darrow has offered his services in conjunction with that of Seymour Stedman, S. Wesselsius and Julius H. Amberg in planning the defense.

Situation In Minnesota.

H. M. Harter, of St. Paul, reports the situation in Minnesota as follows: St. Paul two comrades arrested for passing anti-draft literature out on \$1,000 bail; five comrades arrested for failure to register, all out on bail; a defense committee of some of the ablest attorneys in the northwest organized. In Minneapolis, five comrades have been arrested and a defense organized. In Brainerd 60 are in jail for failure to register. In Minneapolis the daily press reports that somewhere near 25,000 men failed to register.

This fight is now bringing scores to the Socialist movement in the Twin Cities.

Release Detroit Editor.

Nathan L. Welch, Editor of the Michigan Socialist, published at Detroit and Samuel N. Diamond, secretary of the Detroit Socialist local, are out on \$5,000 bail each furnished by friends. Every effort is being made to secure the release of others who are not already out on bail.

Hold Up Cleveland Paper.

Cleveland postal authorities are holding two editions of the Socialist News, a weekly paper published by Local, Cleveland, Socialist Party, on "instructions from Washington." Meyer London, Socialist congressman, has been requested by wire to enter a vigorous protest against attempted abridgment of the right of free speech.

An Appeal To Russia.

St. Louis Socialists have sent an appeal to the Russian government asking for help in its efforts to save American democracy sufficiently to allow 6,000 petitions to be sent out into the state of Missouri in the campaign to repeal the conscription law. The 6,000 letters are now being held up by the postal authorities under orders from Washington.

Question Six At Toledo.

C. V. Ulrich telegraphs from Toledo, Ohio, that six comrades were questioned by the district attorney for distributing the leaflet, "The Price We Pay," but were shortly released with no charge being placed against them.

The Price Of War

What is less easy to formulate than the actual loss of life and wounded are the incidental drains on the nation's vitality which a prolonged war has brought. Man's three great enemies—alcoholism, tuberculosis, and syphilis—have reared their heads on this battle ground and are sapping the race. This is not hysteria nor gossip. It is so publicly admitted that the French Government has appointed Parliamentary commissions to study the situation and recommended measures of prevention (which, if the commissions work with the usual Parliamentary languor, will not come into operation for another year.) Figures, of course, are impossible to get, and would be merely approximate, meaningless. Those who should know the truth admit the facts. And that the conditions are probably as bad or worse on the enemy's side of the lines makes it no better; it is an inevitable result of modern factory war.

Millions of men cannot be kept herded in the terrible conditions of trench life, not for weeks and months, but for years, without an undermining of physical and moral hygiene. The most terrible waste of manhood in modern war is not on the battlefields. The incessant hardships, exposure and ennui of trench life make a certain laxity of discipline inevitable in the quarters behind the lines.

Not only now but after the war France must fight for her race against these three frightful curses of humanity.—Robert Herrick in the New York Times.

Socialism and democracy point the way to the salvation of mankind.

Better go to jail a self-respecting rebel than to the mill a contented slave.

Democracy has been abolished in the United States that it may be instituted in Germany.

Capitalism lies disjoined and helpless in the midst of the wreck and ruin it has brought upon the world.

More than 100 years ago, King George III hired Hessians to fight Americans. Today King George V is conscripting Americans to fight the Hessians.

Our supply of democracy for home consumption is running short. How would you like to have a lot of foreigners come over and shoot some into us?

To think, aye, to think, is the vital need of the working class in this hour of the world's supreme tragedy into which it has been precipitated by the ruling classes of the various civilized and Christianized nations.

Wake Up Washington!

The People Do Not Want War, Conscription, Prussianism and Two Billion Dollar Loans; They Want Peace And Plenty! To Get It—Wake Up Washington!

IT IS now getting popular even here in the United States to predict a revolution for America—something that will make the overthrow of the czar in Russia look tame and insignificant.

These predictions do not come from Socialists. They are made by respectable democrats and republicans who have lost faith in their own parties and are looking elsewhere for hope and an escape from the present dilemma.

WHEN the situation has been boiled down it all amounts to this—Washington has been screaming to the nation, "Wake Up America!" when the cry should have been, "Wake Up Washington!"

Since Washington has failed to awaken itself, the people of the nation must awaken it. All the people must join in this campaign to "Wake Up Washington!"

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" The people didn't want this war. That is why our young men did not volunteer even under the spur of "Catch Villa!"

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" The people are not in favor of your Prussian conscription measure. That is why 10 per cent failed to register and two-thirds claimed exemption.

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" The latest and most crushing argument against war and the militarization of America was the failure of the masses to voluntarily subscribe for the Two Billion Dollar Loan. You had to drive them to buy, threatening to rob them of their jobs if they refused.

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" The people are starving. Mrs. Vanderbilt may save \$1,500 a month on her three-course breakfasts, but the breakfast tables of the masses are almost bare.

N. D. COCHRAN, editor of The Day Book, Chicago, who shouted long and loud for Wilson last fall, has been down to Washington.

He has sized up the situation and says it will take more than two years to put one million men into France. He has written an article telling Washington to forget about the big army because that isn't the big question. He says:

"The really big thing they talk about in whispers and don't print in newspapers is the FEAR OF REVOLUTION RIGHT HERE AT HOME—UNLESS THE HIGH COST OF LIVING IS KNOCKED DOWN QUICKLY."

"Men who see ahead are afraid of this winter, when people may be both hungry and cold. That means that the food problem is the most vital and important one congress has to tackle."

"If flour goes to \$20 a barrel wages will have to be doubled or we'll have food riots. Hoover says the Russian blizzard was one gigantic food riot. I warned the food hogs in a former story. NOW REPEAT THIS WARNING. Armour and his pals ought to get busy two ways—raising wages and reducing food prices."

WHAT HAS this vicious system of rob and starve made of us—the millions of the American people. Let Dr. John H. Quayle, of Cleveland, sum it up:

"It would be impossible to get more than 2,000,000 from the 10,000,000 men who have registered. Between 5,000,000 and 7,000,000 would be barred for physical defects."

Dr. Quayle claims that \$100 for each man would be enough to reclaim these millions from the ravages of the capitalist system upon human health due to unwholesome conditions in tenements, factories, mines and shops everywhere, the inability of the great working masses to buy proper nourishment and take necessary precautions against the inroads of disease.

But Washington is not even dreaming of spending these dollars on the physically unfit who cannot help themselves because their wages cannot now purchase even the necessities of life. Washington is only trying to conscript the physically fit. "WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" to these horrible, brutalizing conditions.

"THE NEW REPUBLIC" is becoming greatly alarmed over some of the things it is just discovering. It declares that immediately the administration Shipping Board, headed by Goethals, decided on a steel construction program the stocks of the United States Steel Corporations, the steel trust, began to climb higher than ever. This publication finds its answer for this climb in the Wall Street Journal, which states that \$100 a ton will be paid for steel to build these ships, steel that could be purchased in 1910 for \$31 a ton. Then it concludes:

"It is hardly credible that far-sighted steel manufacturers of the type of Messrs. Gary, Schwab and Farrell should lend themselves to anything of this sort. At a time when the men of the country are being drafted into service, perhaps to be maimed or killed, for a paltry \$30 a month, it is inconceivable that the wealthiest industry in the United States should be willing thus to coin more riches out of the nation's peril. It would have a most sinister aspect."

"Socialists and radical labor leaders have for years preached to their followers that war was an institution designed by the capitalist class to enable it to extort more profits out of the sweat of labor; unrest among workmen the world over has been predicated on the supposition that while human beings were drafted for war at nominal compensation, property was allowed to exact what the market would bring."

"Would not hundred-dollar steel look like a startling confirmation of this charge? Politically, such a thing would be suicidal. It would supply deadly ammunition to those who have maintained that the President plunged us into the war at the behest of Wall Street interests."

"The New Republic" then pleads with the steel robbers to be good.

THE DAY FOR PLEADING IS OVER!

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" to a realization of the fact that the only solution is to have the nation take over the steel trust and every other trust in the land, and operate them for the benefit of all.

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" to a realization of the fact that instead of war, conscription, militarism, two billion dollar loans and starvation, we want peace and plenty for all.

"WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" to a realization of the fact that we know what we want and that we are going to get what we want.

THAT is going to be the battling and militant spirit of the Special Liberty Edition of The American Socialist, out NEXT WEEK, dated SATURDAY, JUNE 30, for distribution during the week of Independence Day, July 4.

This issue is going to "WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" to a realization of the new spirit of independence that is already showing its power the nation over. Help circulate this issue and "WAKE UP WASHINGTON!" Special attention will be given to the struggle now on to force congress to repeal the Conscription Law and to make America safe for real social-democracy. Join in this great effort!

Order Blank For Special "Liberty Edition"

American Socialist,
803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

For the enclosed \$..... please fill the following order for The American Socialist special "Liberty Edition", dated Saturday, June 30, as indicated below.

\$..... for extra copies to be sent to my address at the rate of ¼ cents a copy; 75c per 100; \$7.50 per 1,000.

\$..... for copies to be addressed and mailed directly by The American Socialist to the list of names attached to this blank at the rate of 1 cent a copy.

Name

Address

City....., State.....

\$1,000 For Subs In One Week Smashes All Records In History Of Our Paper

HERE'S good news for the comrades on the firing line. The receipts for subs for the week ending Saturday, June 16, totalled an even \$1,000—the biggest week in the history of the paper. COMPARE THIS TO THE \$660.78 RECEIVED DURING THE ENTIRE MONTH OF APRIL. The nation is waking up and reading Socialist literature as never before. In order to make up the \$1,000 the comrades in the office of The American Socialist stuck on the job last Saturday until the last mail was in. We just made it. We want to smash this record this week. We can do it easily. At their great annual picnic, Sunday, June 17, attended by 50,000 men, women and children, the Chicago comrades took in 1,000 subs to The American Socialist and 1,000 new party members. Let the comrades in every city, town and hamlet of the nation take up the pace set by our Chicago comrades. Do your bit and do it now!

Autocracy Rules In America

THE AMERICAN PROGRAM, 1787.

1. "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall exist in these United States"—U. S. Constitution, Amendment XIII.

2. Freedom of conscience and opinion.

3. God-speed to peaceful travelers.

4. "No law abridging the freedom of the press"—Amendment I.

5. "The right of the people to peaceably assemble"—Amendment I.

6. "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States"—Art. I, Sec. I.

7. The security of political asylum.

8. "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated"—Amendment IV.

9. "Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation"—Amendment V.

10. "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, of prohibiting the free exercise thereof"—Amendment I.

11. "The powers not delegated to the United States by this Constitution . . . are reserved to the people"—Amendment X.

WILSON'S NEW FREEDOM, 1917.

1. Draft Laws, compulsory registration, military and industrial slavery.

2. Jails and loss of citizenship for radicals.

3. Refusal of passports to attend neutral peace gathering.

4. Censorship of press.

5. Public meetings broken up by authorities; citizens beaten up by drunken soldiers and fined in addition by blackguard courts.

6. Congress, supposedly people's representatives, turned into rubber stamp at command of autocrat in White House.

7. Allies to be permitted to recruit their citizens in this country for military duty.

8. Secret service spies raid homes and offices, make arrests and searches without warrant, hold citizens incommunicado without preferring any charges.

9. Compulsory contribution to government bond issues.

10. Recognition of organized religious sectarianism and denial of unorganized conscience.

11. "What's the constitution between politicians?"

12. "The constitution is a piece of paper."

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33. "The constitution is a piece of paper."

Prussian "Kultur" Wins

NOTE.—Registration Day, June 5, in the United States is given special attention in the current issue of "The British Columbia Federationist," official organ of organized labor in Western Canada. The Canadian workers have successfully related conscription for nearly three years and can not understand how the people of this country feel such an easy victim to it. If there is going to be any conscription in Canada, the workers insist that they should have the same right as their brothers in Australia, to vote on the question first. It is because they know that conscription would be overwhelmingly defeated that the authorities are bitterly opposed to the referendum idea. In commenting on the elaborate preparations made to resist opposition to registration on June 5, in the United States, The Federationist's editor writes:

It is quite interesting indeed to read of the elaborate preparations made by the United States authorities to cope with any possible outbreak that might occur upon the day of registration, June 5. Policemen, militia, machine guns and other paraphernalia of human butchery were amply in evidence, evidently as a guarantee of good faith upon the part of the aforesaid authorities in their pretense of putting the conscription cinch upon the sheeplike multitude in the name of democracy and liberty.

Uphold Purity Of Motives.

The threatening display of a powerful repressive force armed to the teeth with suggestively wicked instruments of mutilation and death, quite clearly established the bona fides of the authorities and removed all doubt as to the purity of motive lying behind the entire conscription scheme.

But the way the noble sons of the republic came thru on registration day showed quite conclusively that the authorities had failed to properly size up the mental and moral fibre of the material they set out to conscript. No threat was necessary to make them come thru. Police, soldiers, machine guns and other murder stuff was entirely uncalled for. The slaves came of their own volition.

It was not even necessary to shake a handful of bats before them as we were often compelled to do when sent to the pasture to catch a mule. The American slave has evidently been too well trained to even think of dodging when he is ordered to stick his neck into it. He is like a well-trained ox. He knows that his neck was made for the yoke, instead of the yoke for his neck.

Embrace Prussian "Kultur".

We are pleased to record that the sheep-like docility with which they embraced "Prussian kultur," thus pledging themselves to the "goose step" and the swagger of the true faith, was almost unanimous among the Americans on Tuesday last.

The only notable exceptions were those of about 600 foreigners in Butte, Mont., and a bunch of Indians down in Arizona. The former had evidently not been long enough out of the clutches of the "Prussian kultur" of Europe to have gotten over being cloyed with the peculiar richness of its flavor.

This should be their excuse, and the assurance may be safely given, that if they are allowed to remain in America, their association with the rest of the docile bunch of slaves will in time make them as tame as the rest. The unseemly conduct of the Arizona Indians, however, is probably due to the fact that they have no European blood in their veins to dull their spirit and so pollute their manhood, that they will no longer gag at slavery and puke from the stench of its "kultur." These Arizona Indians—the only genuine Americans—chased the Indian agent who tried to register them for the slaughter house of "Prussian kultur," off the reservation. For this they are entitled to receive, and eminently worthy to accept, the congratulations of the Russian revolutionists.

These insignificant incidents constitute all that is lacking to make the victory of "Prussianism" absolute and complete in the United States. The Kaiser is entitled to hearty congratulations. He wins. That silly piece of castiron at the gates of New York representing a rather comely washerwoman called "Liberty," engaged in the senseless occupation of "enlightening the world," should be recast into an heroic figure of William II, goose stepping the world from puerile and decadent democracy to the "kultur" level of Prussian super-civilization.

Emmet L. Adams, an organizer of the International Machinists Association, after a trip thru Indiana declares that the United States will soon see a revolution that will oust the one in Russia unless the government takes radical measures to safeguard the interests of the workers of the nation.

Plan To Double Our Army Of Readers Now!

By J. L. ENGDAHL

Editor of The American Socialist.

WOULDN'T you like to help double the size of the reading army of our paper NOW? I know you would.

I have been thinking over the plan suggested by Comrade H. E. Keas, of Dubuque, Ia., published in last week's paper. The more I think of it the more it appeals to me.

His plan is simply this—to have boys sell our paper each week in every city, town and hamlet of the nation. They can be sold on the streets or from house to house. One comrade in Arizona sold more than 200 copies of one week's issue going from house to house.

Comrade Keas says he is ready to take 1,000 papers for Dubuque, Ia., organize a selling squad of five boys to sell the paper for two cents a copy, allow the boys to keep one cent and to use the other cent to buy more papers and build up the business.

We hope to get some one to develop this plan in 10,000 cities and towns. We would like to have some grown-up comrade direct the work. Where this is impossible we are sure boys will be found to take charge of it.

IN ORDER to get this work started NOW; in order to double the reading army of our paper NOW; we will send 25 copies FREE to anyone who will promise to give this plan a tryout in his town.

You can sell these 25 copies for two cents each and with the 50 cents order a second week's supply. Our regular bundle order rate is 75 cents per 100, \$7.50 per 1,000.

While this is being written a letter comes from Comrade Ernest Malott, secretary-treasurer of the Marion, Ind., Socialist local. He orders 100 copies a week saying, "I intend to put them in the newsboys' hands and give them all they make. This will make them push our propaganda with greater zeal."

If you are interested in this plan, if you want 25 COPIES FREE as a starter, rush in your order to help double the reading army of your paper, The American Socialist, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

YES, thank you, we smashed another record on Monday, June 11. In last week's paper we told you that on Monday, June 4, the receipts for subscriptions were the largest in the history of the paper, totalling \$199.28.

Monday, June 11, went past this marked with flying colors. Our receipts on that day were \$236.08; the biggest in the history of the paper up to the present time. We are looking ahead to next Monday to smash this record.

On The Firing Line

"Go to it! You are 'going good work'!" writes Comrade John A. Leary of Plattsmouth, Neb., and he helps by ordering a bundle of the paper containing Stedman's speech. He is going to use them to round up a bunch of subs.

"It sure is enlightening to the common people," writes Vernon W. Lanning, of Wapakoneta, Ohio, as he subscribes for "The Great Enlightener."

"Long live The American Socialist!" cheers Comrade Frank Martin, of Cincinnati, Ohio, as he sends in a bunch of subs.

Comrade Henry Baer, of York, Neb., doesn't put his paper aside after reading it. He passes it on to someone else because "The American Socialist has surely become a great factor in moulding the destiny of civilization. It is a nerve tonic, a comforter in troubled times. It gives hope and assurance that justice may yet prevail and saves from despair many a downtrodden worker. Comrade hopes for the final triumph of Socialist principles."

"We intend to get 25 subs every week for the best the paper has to offer," writes Comrade Abraham J. Schwartz, of Fall River, Mass., speaking for the Young People's Socialist League at that place.

"I am a 14 year old boy from our 79 year old veteran, Comrade George Apin, West Bay City, Mich., who fought for four years under Gen. Sherman in the Civil War. He told me how to live for the new civilization, as long as life lasts."

"We want the truth and we can't get it thru any other source," writes Comrade James K. Fox, of Sancho, W. Va., as he subscribes.

Comrade J. L. Byerly, of Hoyt, W. Va., is a recent volunteer. He sends in a list of seven and expects to stick in the fight to the finish.

Comrade J. H. Dickson enlists a dozen at Springfield, Ohio.

"We are still in the harness and picking up new members in spite of the fact that some of our alleged literary geniuses are leaving us and dropping the banner out of the window," writes Comrade John C. Knowlton, of Mason City, Iowa. "Our local will go to the hundred mark before winning hitting the mark."

"I am a mother of four boys. I have raised them to be men, not murderers. I am going to send more subs to you," is part of a letter that comes from Fredburg, Kan. "Oh! For men like you everywhere; men brave enough to be called a coward by Wall Street patriots," she writes.

One of our comrades got J. P. Mallory, member of the Arizona legislature to subscribe for The American Socialist, to get him posted on Socialism.

"I received a copy of The American Socialist today. I was pleased with it," writes a mother from Terre Haute, Ind.

"Five hundred thousand subs before the end of the year," is the slogan suggested by Comrade W. N. Koelling, New York.

"On with the fight to a finish," writes Comrade R. K. Smith, Colorado, rushing in the subs.

"I heartily congratulate you on the magnificent paper you are giving us. All Socialists should be proud of it and push it for all they are able to do. It is the best Socialist paper of national circulation," Comrade M. E. Edison, Virginia.

"Thank God the people are beginning to wake up!" says H. C. Stevenson, Ohio, in sending in a list of 10. "They don't say any more, when one mentions Socialism to them, that they haven't time to talk Socialism. The hate time. They are going to remove their shackles and chains and make themselves free at the next election!"

"You certainly have a good live paper. It is hot stuff. Just what I like!"—J. W. Johnson, Texas.

"Am getting absolutely disgusted with the daily press and want to read the other side of this story," is the confession of an ex-reader of the jingo dailies who has turned to The American Socialist.

"Don't quit! You are doing good," is the message from a new reader out in Burlington, Wash., who saw the light by reading "The Price We Pay."

A Contribution

The letter published below may be taken as an indication of the spirit of the movement that is to be. The amount of money contributed by any individual is never the true measure of the spirit that moves the giver. The sacrifice entailed in the thing that makes a contribution significant. The letter printed below is from the Morgantown, W. Va., Y. P. S. U., and surely shows the right spirit in this crisis:

"Dear Comrade Kruse:—

"I am enclosing a check for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). Please add this to the Y. P. S. U. Defense Fund."

"This money was collected originally for a piano fund but the members of our league thought that it would be selfish for us, who are doing so little in the battle against militarism, while our loyal rebel comrades suffer and languish in prison."

"We still have a little money which we are carefully hoarding for any emergency which may overtake us locally at this uncertain time."

Frisco Labor Prosecutor Caught Tampering Jury

ASSISTANT District Attorney Louis Ferrari struggled hard to get rid of Paul Postler, who had passed all legal tests as a juror in the trial of Rena Mooney, at San Francisco, Cal. His objection to Postler was that the latter belongs to a Labor Union. It is against the unwritten law of San Francisco for a union member to be allowed to sit on a jury. The prosecutor had spent his last peremptory challenge to discharge another union man, Joseph Downey. There was no way of legally getting rid of Postler.

The prosecutor's staff went into conference and then announced that there had been an irregularity in the selection of the jury and that the entire jury should be discharged and a new jury obtained. Newspapers flashed headlines, as they always do with the slightest excuse, accusing the defense of tampering with the jury.

In tense excitement an investigation was begun. The clerk of the court was suspended from duty. It developed that the name of Daniel Kelley had been written over the name of another man on the jury slip, and that Kelley had not been examined and was then sitting on the jury. The clerk and bailiff were called to the witness stand and questioned.

The bailiff is Gaetano Malpiede, a close friend and constant companion of Assistant District Attorney Fred Berry. The handwriting in which the name of Kelley was written appeared to be that of Malpiede. Malpiede denied writing the name. With an air of righteous indignation, Berry questioned the bailiff as to whether he was sure that it was not his handwriting.

"I don't think it could be I have no recollection of writing it," said Malpiede. But the bailiff weakened under a fierce cross-examination by the defense, and finally admitted that he wrote the name over that of another man. Kelley is not on the certified legal list of jurors.

Malpiede ultimately admitted that Kelley HAD COME TO HIM AND ASKED TO BE PUT ON THE JURY SO THAT HE COULD "MAKE THE JURY FEE."

In the excitement, a question was asked of the clerk of the court, Butler, to which Butler replied THAT THE JURY SLIPS HAD BEEN GIVEN TO THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FOR USE OVER NIGHT IN VIOLATION OF THE COURT'S STRICT ORDER THAT NEITHER SIDE WAS TO BE ALLOWED TO KNOW WHO WAS TO SERVE ON THE JURY.

Had this scandal been brought to light against the defense, the result would have been a sensational story in every newspaper in the United States to the effect that the defense had been caught at jury-fixing. But the oily gall of the sinister influences in control of the city is such that the story was minimized or hushed up and the prosecutors proceed without a blush to try other devices.

Kelley was excused "on account of sickness" and both sides were allowed to renew their challenges. Immediately the district attorney discharged the only union man left on the jury.

Edward Cunha, who had not shown his face in the court since he had broken down a letter telling him that the Rigall-Oxman affair did not worry him as much as the jury situation in the (Tom) Mooney case, which situation was the thing that troubled his conscience," rushed back into court to aid in getting if possible a jury of sycophants of the Chamber of Commerce.

The jury is now complete and the taking of evidence is in full swing.

BIG RAILROAD HELPS ELECT SOCIALIST MAYOR IN KANSAS

When Santa Fe railroad officials learned that John Schieldknecht, a switchman in the employ of the company, had been nominated as the Socialist candidate for mayor of Frontenac, Kans., they immediately wrote Schieldknecht a letter telling him that he was violating a rule of the company by running for a political office and that if he did not at once withdraw his name from the race he would be discharged by the company.

Schildknecht was elected by a good majority. The story of the Santa Fe's attempted intimidation got out and helped elect the Socialist candidate. The Santa Fe officials made good their threat and discharged Schieldknecht.

After having made a fizzle of their raid on the Indiana Socialist Headquarters at Indianapolis, the authorities, Fred George Scovel, the only Socialist arrested. No evidence was presented and the police court judge dismissed the case. Scovel had been held under \$5,000 bail for a week.

Conscription Of Labor Is Next Plot Of Plutocrats

(Special Correspondence)

WASHINGTON—It is conscription of labor next!

The signs point that way, and at the same time the signs point to the very grave and very immediate necessity upon labor of so perfecting its organization as to be able to deal effectively with employers when the day of this new and terrible kind of conscription does arrive.

The logic of the times points to conscription of labor. The necessities of warring capitalism point to the same conclusion. Here and there a frank representative of the existing system goes so far as to declare that such conscription must come.

Granted that we are all in the war, whether we like it or not, and granted, further, that military conscription is a reality, a fact, it follows that the State can easily oblige workers to toil for it, no matter whether in the field, farm or factory. All varieties of conscription became fact just as soon as military conscription arrived.

Of course, if labor conscription takes place it will take place against the wishes and protests of the laboring masses. But again, if it takes place, if the development of capitalism and the war forces it, it is not the part of wisdom, first to fight it by every legitimate means; and second, failing victory, to modify it to the best advantage of labor!

Shackle Men To Jobs.

The word went out from Washington to the masters of industry before the war began that over twenty thousand corporations had agreed to hold their men in the shops if the government gave the word. This is the essence of conscription—force against free will. As yet except in isolated cases, there has been no practice with this circumstance. Still, the experiment may take place at any time. Let us be prepared.

What the capitalists desire is CHEAP LABOR. What the farmers desire is CHEAP LABOR. There is plenty of labor at a living wage. There is, unfortunately, plenty of labor at less than a living wage, but when capitalism pushes men to the breaking point, labor has common sense enough to prefer the breadline and the loafers' bench to toil.

If the capitalists will DIVIDE UP their profits they will not have to conscript labor. If the government will put the food speculators out of business, the people will no longer pay the majority of their wages out for food. If the state, the collective government that has conscripted men's bodies, will conscript the resources of nature WITHOUT PROFIT to private interests, it will not have to conscript labor. To conscript labor is to confess that slavery is necessary under "free institutions."

Force Lloyd George To His Knees.

According to reliable accounts, the workmen of England forced Lloyd George to his knees—and the capitalists also—when the proposition to conscript labor arose. Labor struck. War work stopped. British capitalism told the world that British labor was a slacker and a drunkard. Labor came to bat. Labor said: "We'll see who are slackers. We will put in all our time and toil for nothing provided that the capitalists will turn in all their profits to the government. Otherwise we stand pat."

It worked. Lloyd George was forced down and down with him came British capitalism. Labor at that moment won more nearly a square deal than it ever had. This is the story as it is told here by a high official of this government.

The lesson for us is plain. If labor conscription comes, USE IT. There is no tool so poor but that labor may make it into its own weapon, for its own advancement, IF IT USES IT. The day for mere protests has passed. In the future protests must be backed by organized action, for in no other way can the exploited classes secure justice.

Remember Russia!

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Show The Flag!

Dip the flag to half-mast! Liberty is dead!

Conscription is the order now—Freedom has fled!

Let the eagle fold his wings, Let him droop his head!

Dip the flag to half-mast! Liberty is dead!

Dip the flag to half-mast! Liberty is dead!

Stricken by one dastard blow, That Wrong may reign!

Sound the Dead March slowly now— Chant a funeral strain.

And dip the flag to half-mast— Liberty is slain!

She of whom we boasted, She who was our pride,

By the hands of liars foul, And traitors died!

Let the eagle fold his wings, Let him droop his head!

Dip the flag to half-mast— Liberty is dead!

LYDIA M. D. O'NEIL.

United Socialists Victorious In Petrograd Municipal Elections; Rout Liberals

A UNITED Socialist Party has carried Petrograd, Russia, in the municipal elections, and controls the city council. The Socialists were opposed by the Liberals who ran a bad second. Those who voted numbered 700,447, equal to 70 per cent of the qualified electors, of whom 530,000 voted for the United Socialist candidates. All of the so-called bourgeois parties together received only 180,000, of which only 18,000 were cast for the reactionary counter revolution candidates. This momentous news was almost entirely suppressed by the capitalist press in this country. Women voted in the election—the first application of woman suffrage in Russia. A hot campaign was waged, with street meetings and demonstrations every night, and in some districts during the day. Pending the meeting of the Constituent Assembly and the framing of a national constitution, the Socialist Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates continues to rule Russia. Watch for inspiring news about Russia each week in The American Socialist.

Wilson Places His Stamp Of Disapproval On Socialist Party

PRESIDENT Wilson, himself, finally placed his personal stamp of disapproval on the American Socialist Party, in his Flag Day Speech at Washington, D. C., Thursday, June 14, when he said: "They are using men, in Germany and without, as their spokesmen whom they have despised and oppressed, using them for their own destruction—Socialists, the leaders of labor, the thinkers they have hitherto sought to silence."

The "they" refers to "the Military masters of Germany" the president thus repeating the charge, now so popular in government circles, of pro-Germanism against the Socialist Party.

WITH Liebknecht and Rosa Luxembourg in prison and treason charges brought against Ledebour, Haase and others, we are led to believe that the German ruling class still despises and oppresses Socialists in Germany, and that President Wilson is not very well informed on the situation or purposely ignores the facts.

We do not intend, now or in the future, to excuse any of the wrongful acts of Scheidemann, Sudekum or any other member of the German majority group. Any German Socialist, however, who lends himself to the purposes of the military masters of Germany will soon find himself cast out by the great rank and file of the social-democracy. The same holds true in the United States.

SINCE when has the ruling class in America, either at Washington or in Wall Street, smiled with favor upon the American Socialist movement? Have we not always been despised and oppressed? It has never been the custom of Socialists, in any of the nations of the world, to court the favor of the ruling power. We in the United States have not departed from this high example nor do we intend to do so.

Socialism has struggled manfully and heroically against ruling class enmity in peace times. We can do no less in war times, even in the face of the president's threat, toward the close of his Flag Day speech, of, "We stand in our way."

Years of ruling class denunciation has caloused our sensitiveness to all kinds of senseless prejudice and baseless criticism. We can stand up now and be counted true to our principles in the face of hostile hosts; diminishing hostile hosts we are glad to say, as we witness our own ranks hourly increasing and our principles winning new adherents.

Indications are that this month will see the greatest membership in the Socialist Party since the beginning of the war. The week just closing has been the greatest in the history of The American Socialist in new subscribers received.

While increasing thousands rush to our standards it is inevitable that a few should become faint hearted, lose their grip on the great issue and slink away. We have lost nothing in their going because we never really had them. It has ever been thus.

IT is very evident to us that the government at Washington, irrespective of what is happening in Berlin, is trying to use "Socialists, the leaders of labor, the thinkers they have hitherto sought to silence", not because Socialism is now in favor, but because it will help to advance the aims and ambitions of the government at Washington.

George Creel, the government censor at Washington, is not a Socialist, but he is being "USED" as having been a radical. A paragraph from The Masses, edited by Max Eastman, one of the Socialists who inclined toward Wilson last fall and now regrets it, states the case as follows:

"One of our most esteemed contributors, George Creel, has been appointed chairman of the board of censorship of the war. Once George Creel wrote an article on 'Rockefeller Law', which was censored by all his employers, including the most radical popular magazine in America. He brought it to us. We passed it. Our readers will remember. So will George Creel, too."

Every radical is now a "Socialist" for the purposes of the government at Washington and the capitalist press. Thus the staff correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, in a lengthy Washington dispatch, refers to Creel as representing "the progressive theoretical Socialists."

The only clew we have as to the identity of this new brand of government Socialists is the fact that Creel has allied with him several writers who have been playing hide and seek with Socialism for years as part of their profession.

Two of these assistant censors are Arthur Bullard and Ernest Poole, whose present jobs will no doubt keep them in line with the administration for a time at least. A third is Walter Lippman, one of the editors of "The New Republic" and before that private secretary to George R. Lunn, during part of the time that Lunn was Socialist mayor of Schenectady, N. Y. Lunn is now a democratic congressman who voted for the war and conscription. The Ledger also states that Creel has associated with him William English Walling, all of whose fawning did not land him a place on the Russian commission. Not one of this entire group is now a member of the Socialist Party.

THE nature of the Socialist movement in the United States has been such in the past that those who have been quick and ready, with tongue and pen, have too soon received place and power.

Thus, almost in a night, Joseph Medill Patterson, of Chicago, came into the movement, helped start the Chicago Daily Socialist, was elected to the national executive committee; but, almost before the morning came, he was again lost to us. The "revolution" he thought was coming over the horizon did not materialize soon enough, so he sank back into the old rut of reaction.

Now Patterson is one of the editors and part owner of The Chicago Daily Tribune, rabid jingo in war, republican in politics and staunch upholder of the system.

J. G. Phelps Stokes flashed up to a place on the national executive committee of the party about the same time, ten years ago, and almost as suddenly was eclipsed altho he retained his party membership.

Others have lingered longer because their staying powers were evidently just a little more developed. But the big test has come. In some few cases internationalism has given way to the bias of a narrow nationalism. Yet those thus lost, because of their tongue and pen prominence, and because it serves the interests of the present masters in this crisis to USE them, are receiving attention far beyond their worth.

sympathy and respect of Socialist and non-Socialist alike. Their expulsion merely became a matter of party routine and the sooner they are forgotten the better.

THE resignation of John Spargo from the national executive committee and the party was expected long before he espoused the British cause at the St. Louis convention. His leanings were professedly pro-Ally from the day the war started.

If Gaylord and Simons had accomplished their "informing" before expulsion, Spargo accomplished his "misinforming" incidental to his retirement from the party ranks. Yet, it was no less cowardly. Spargo's vicious and baseless attack upon the party, charging it with being pro-German, was delicious food for the famished jingo press, hungry for a morsel of ammunition with which to accomplish its hope—the decimation of the ranks of the Socialist Party.

If Spargo gets any consolation out of hearing his phrases mouthed by all the subsidized, anti-Socialist editorial writers in the land, he is entitled to it. But as these same editorial writers again take up the cry of the munition makers, the populace intuitively turns to Socialism knowing that what the war mongers attack should immediately be embraced as their only hope.

Thus, Spargo's going can only result in persuading those who remain to be truer than ever to the convictions for which they are struggling.

When the hour of opportunity strikes, Spargo will not, as Scheidemann did in the Reichstag in Berlin, proclaim an oncoming revolution unless the military masters bow to the demand for "peace without annexations and indemnities". Scheidemann and Sudekum have much to answer for. When the roll is called, however, at the first International Socialist Congress following the war, Scheidemann and Sudekum will be in their places in the German Social-Democracy. We fear that Spargo will be in the "USE" of a Wall Street government in the United States, if such a government survives this world conflagration.

CHARLES Edward Russell remained true to his free lance instincts to the last. He readily accepted a place on the Russian commission after Victor L. Berger had refused to serve with Elihu Root, the American lackey of the former Russian czar.

President Wilson USED Russell in a worse sense than Scheidemann and Sudekum were ever used by the German government. The president and Russell may deceive themselves, the Russian Socialists are not deceived.

Practically all of the governments sent Socialist delegations to Petrograd to meet with the Russian Socialists. Russell was used to veneer an American commission made up of a Wall Street politician, several bankers and monarchs of industry, with a sprinkling of army and navy puppets. Such is the blindness of America's ruling class.

WE DO not fear for the future. The Majority Report, adopted so overwhelmingly at the St. Louis convention, will be adopted just as overwhelmingly by the party membership in the referendum now closing.

Two more "tongue and pen" Socialists have announced that they will have to desert this great majority and go their ways—Allan L. Benson, of Yonkers, New York, and N. A. Richardson, of San Bernardino, Cal. Their promises to leave have already been copiously exploited by the capitalist press. They will no doubt signal their departure with long statements which will we hope, for their sakes, be given just as much publicity as the one issued by Spargo.

Benson, altho he was honored with the presidential nomination of the Socialist Party last year, speaks for himself alone. Richardson says the other members of the California state executive committee think as he does. Let them speak for themselves. Spargo speaks for himself now, even as he spoke for himself at St. Louis. As for Russell, Elihu Root will no doubt make a good reactionary republican out of him before his return from Russia.

THIS is the timber out of which the capitalist press is trying to manufacture a political organization to exterminate the Socialist Party, the present political expression of the enlightened toilers of America. The future, full of promise for labor, will record the dismal failure of the ill-starred enterprise.

Let Us Say It Again

Ten million young men are registered, but only half a million are to be selected; this means that one out of twenty must go.

There is work for the remaining nineteen. That work is to see that the cause of democracy, for which the chosen one is summoned to kill or to die, shall be won at home.

It is a solemn charge upon the nineteen who are not taken, to see that whatever lives are lost will not be laid down in vain.

Without shedding of blood there is no remission of sins; and blood must be shed, to awaken your sluggish brains to the fact that the climax and summary of all sins is the worship of Money, and the sacrifice of life to Mammon.

If they must go, see that the purchase price of their lives is redeemed; and that Socialism, which is the end of tyranny, is established at home.

If they come back, see that they come back to a land purged and purified of the crime of human sacrifice.

Let the world democracy take shape; let human brotherhood become a reality; let the universal commonwealth take root here at home;

Only so can this vast Sacrifice become an Atonement, and peace on earth, good will among all men; be the chorus of the voices of all the sons of men;

For in Socialism lies the hope of the redemption of the world.

Herbert S. Bigelow, prominent single taxer, is out with a threat to organize "a new party" in the coming municipal elections in Cincinnati, Ohio. It is to be known as the American Social Democratic Party, copying the name used by the Socialist Party in some European countries. We agree with Bigelow when he says, "The old parties must die with the system." But he shows an evident lack of sincerity when he says, "The Socialist Party is a close communion affair". It has never come to our attention that Bigelow ever tried to join the Socialist Party. The doors of the Socialist Party are wide open to the workers of the nation. It is evidence enough to us to know that thousands are flocking to its standards in this crisis. Of course, if Bigelow can pick up a few stray members from those who seek to wander in narrow and secret paths of their own rather than stick to the broad highway, he is entitled to them.

A statesman is a fellow who offers your life to his country.

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J. L. ENGDAHL.....Editor

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SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1917.

Workers Of All Lands Must Unite For Peace, Say Russian Socialists

One of the most interesting of the many remarkable documents issued by the Russian Socialist Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's delegates is the reply to the joint letter of Albert Thomas, the French minister of munitions, Arthur Henderson, British minister without portfolio, and Emile Vandervelde, Belgian minister of munitions, all prominent Socialists in their respective countries, expressing surprise that a call had been issued for an international conference to consider peace.

In straightforward and forceful language the Russian Council explains its position regarding the international Socialist conference as follows:

"The Russian revolution, which is a revolt of the people not only against the tyranny of Czarism, but also against the horrors of world war, has placed before all countries the urgent need of concluding peace."

"At the same time the Russian revolution has indicated to the nations a way for realizing this problem, notably a union of all the working classes to combat all attempts of imperialism to prolong the war in the interests of the wealthy classes and to prevent peace without annexations or indemnities."

"The working classes of all countries can easily come to a speedy solid agreement only if they are inspired with their own interests and remove the aspirations of imperialists and militarists. It is evident that the conference can become the turning point in the terrible epoch of fratricidal war only if the members of the conference are imbued with these ideas. And it is no less evident that all the questions you have raised cannot be the subject of discord or a motive for a continuation of the war."

"Having recognized the right of nations to dispose of their destiny, the members of the conference will come to an understanding without difficulty regarding the future of Alsace-Lorraine and other regions. Moreover, the working classes, relieved of the mutual distrust with which the imperialists have envenomed them, will agree regarding the means of granting compensation and the amount of such compensation to the countries devastated by war, like Belgium, Poland, Galicia and Serbia. But it goes without saying that such compensation must have nothing in common with the contribution which is imposed on the conquered country."

"Regarding your desire to obtain a complete agreement between the allied Socialists, the way in which we put the problem renders futile any such understanding. We consider that the conference can succeed only if the Socialists consider themselves not the representatives of the two belligerent parties, but the representatives of a single movement of the working classes toward a common aim of a general peace."

This is plain talk to those Socialists in all countries who have entered war cabinets and taken an active part in this imperialist-capitalist inspired slaughter.

This statement was issued as the Russian Socialist press was commenting rather unfavorably on President Wilson's note to Russia outlining the war aims and peace terms of the United States. Wilson's declarations for humanity and democracy were dismissed as high-sounding phraseology, while his war for victory ideas were received with indignation. Altogether, Wilson has succeeded in arousing considerable mistrust among the Russians. This was the situation when the Root Commission arrived in Petrograd.

ELIHU Root and fellow members on the Russian Commission have arrived at Petrograd. They might have slipped in thru the back door, in the darkness of night, for all the publicity they received in the American press. Greater attention is given by the press to Washington dispatches frantically attempting to prove that Root was a tried and true friend of the Russian people. The state department at Washington has even taken the trouble to cable a version of the Rudowitz and Pouran cases favorable to Root to the American embassy in Petrograd. Root's record stands, however. It is a blot that cannot be wiped out. Root must have sweet dreams as he sleeps in the best chamber the former czar's Winter Palace affords. Root has arrived in Russia but he will never "arrive" in the minds of Russia's emancipated people.

RUSSIAN Socialist newspapers accuse President Wilson of using high toned language and vague phrases embodying principles unacceptable to the Russian democracy, and even hinting that the declaration of the United States' government against a policy of imperialism and annexations is insincere.

The organ of the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates says:

"It is unnecessary to say much about this latest note. President Wilson is mistaken if he imagines such views can appeal to the people of revolutionary Russia. The Russian revolutionary democracy knows that the road to universal peace, so passionately desired by it, lies thru a united struggle by the working classes of the whole world against imperialism. No high toned or cloudy phrases can deceive us."

MAXIM Gorky's publication, the Novaya Zhizn, reflecting the views of the Bolsheviks, or radical socialists, cites "Germany's oppression in Posen and that of Belgium in the Congo," and asks, "Where is the guaranty that America is to take advantage of its 'disinterestedness' if it succeeds in bringing all the democracies to believe that it is its desire to give life and freedom to annexed territories?"

On the subject of indemnities the Novaya Zhizn says:

"If you consider Germany alone responsible for the war and that it is necessary only to punish her, then be sincere and logical, but do not seek to deceive

the democracies—do not speak equivocally when clearness and persistence is necessary. President Wilson is appealing solemnly to all free nations to collaborate. We have heard these appeals from the imperialists of all countries and always they are followed by volleys from the guns of the fraternity of steel kings."

RUSSIA'S revolution is given as the big cause back of the fall of Constantine I, king of Greece, kicked from his throne by the three entente powers, Russia, England and France.

While the czar reigned in Russia he used his influence to prevent the overthrow of his brother-monarch Constantine, whose chief crime was being pro-German. He is a brother-in-law of the Kaiser.

Since the Russian revolution put the czar in prison, the last prop fell from under the throne of Constantine and he will now journey to Switzerland to live as a private citizen.

The entente powers have put Constantine's second son on the throne as a temporary makeshift. There is a growing sentiment for a republic, however, and it will arrive in due time. The war has already unseated a czar and a king. NEXT!

SAMUEL GOMPERS, president of the American Federation of Labor, has suddenly raised a very interesting question by cabling credentials to James Duncan, labor member of the Root Russian Commission, to attend the International Socialist Peace Conference called by the Russian Council of Soldiers' and Workmen's Delegates.

If Duncan can attend an International Socialist Peace Conference, without violating the law of the United States, why cannot the regular delegates of the American Socialist Party attend? Or will Duncan be the special envoy of President Wilson? Developments are daily becoming more interesting.

Paying The War Bill

By JOSEPH E. COHEN.

THUS far the gentlemen of Wall Street who most desired this war have accomplished three things:

They succeeded in having two billions of dollars worth of bonds issued instead of permitting the cost of the war to be paid out of their excess profits;

They succeeded in having only a part of the total amount needed issued at this time;

They conscripted the poorer people into taking the bonds, so that the loan was very slow in being subscribed for, thereby creating the impression that future loans must be offered at higher rates of interest—when the Wall Street crowd may buy more heavily.

WALL STREET decided to have this war. It decided to demonstrate its patriotism in any except two ways: Give up its life or its money.

That no rich man or rich man's son will give up his life goes without saying. "Selective conscription" of men, unless by some mischance the selecting falls into the hands of such as are really democrats, will see to it that no scion of a wealthy family is made to go soldiering with common people. No craze will decorate the doorknobs of American palaces.

But it seemed quite another matter to put thru the financial program whereby the nation pays the bill in money as well as men, exempting Wall Street entirely.

FIRST of all, this war would have been a mighty cheap one for Wall Street even if it had to pay the whole cost.

During the last year Wall Street, and those whose grasp on the money situation oozes out from Wall Street, made no less than \$41,000,000,000 over and above what was cleared the year before. From which it can readily be seen that it would be but a drop in the bucket for Wall Street to be assessed two billion or even the whole seven billion dollar war budget.

Moreover, if the seven billion dollars were assessed against the business established by American concerns in South America owing to Germany's being driven from that field, it would not begin to tap the enormous profits cleared in the American republics by our own promoters.

Any sense of decency and fairness would dictate that the cost of the war be carried by those who reap the benefit. But our ruling class is especially distinguished for the absence of decency and fairness.

HAVING succeeded in foisting a war loan on the country, in order that future generations might help bear the burden of making the world a safe place for democracy, the Wall Street crowd next insisted that only a part of the amount to be raised by the loan be asked for in the beginning. Their demand was complied with.

It was then easy to set about making it appear that ready money was not to be had for the bonds. This was that much easier to do because the working people who were urged to do their bit, were never so much as right now concerned in keeping what little savings they have in such shape as to be able to get at their reserve when the cost of living requires it, or a panic after the war compels it.

So Wall Street set about drafting the poor for the Liberty Loan, by making the security of a man's employment dependent upon his subscribing for a government bond.

The stories that came from Washington on the "failure" of the Liberty Loan had only one purpose. That is, to urge the government to offer the next loans at a higher rate of interest. Then Wall Street will begin to buy more eagerly.

Until now what selling there has been to Rockefeller and other large capitalists has been in the nature of sparing them from the tax on excess profits, since the Liberty Loan bonds are free of taxation. The investment has been a good one for Rockefeller and his friends.

With our Millionaire's Club, known as the United States Senate, paring down the sum to be derived by taxation, making it indispensable for the government to offer another loan shortly, Wall Street is coming to the bat strong and is ready for a big inning.

WHAT has been done thus far in financing the war is on a par with the attitude assumed by Wall Street and the government with regard to the war. That attitude is that this is about the same kind of war as former ones, in which the rich reap the harvest and the poor pay the cost.

It may and most likely will turn out that this is anything but that kind of a war. It may and most likely will turn out that the people will not pay the whole cost of the war and that they may reap considerable of the benefit—in a manner not expected by Wall Street.

That will be one and a good one on Wall Street. In the meanwhile it is no cause for wonder that large numbers are taking the same position toward the war as Wall Street has! To do none of the fighting and pay none of the bill.

The position thus taken by Wall Street is intended to make the country safe for plutocracy; the position thus taken by the people will make the country safe for democracy.

This particular time the people are going to laugh last.

Come On In, Mr. Easley! Take All The Tainted Cash You Find!

RALPH M. Easley, chairman of the executive committee of the National Civic Federation, has issued a suggestion to the Government that it investigate the sources of revenue of the Socialist party, to "find out how many of the millions spent in this country by the German Government are financing the party and its press."

"It is well known", says Mr. Easley, "that Germany is financing not only the Socialist and anarchist movements, but the various peace movements in this country, both real and spurious."

Mr. Easley is invited to come and investigate the finances of the Socialist party and its press at any time, or to send Governmental representatives to any number or to any degree. If he finds one cent, one dollar or any other sum that has come into the Socialist party from the source he names, or from any other source except from the pockets of working men and those utterly opposed to the present capitalist system with all its attendant horrors so ably upheld by Mr. Easley and his bosom friends—then we will cheerfully present such tainted money to Mr. Easley.

Will Mr. Easley so readily throw open the books of the National Civic Federation, so that we may get an insight into the donors of the funds that go so far to pay for the elaborate dinners where "labor leaders" are feted and furnished with scab cigars and scab bread? Perhaps Mr. Easley possesses special skill in handling "tainted money." Certainly the company he keeps has an ample supply of it.

The statement that the German government is financing the Socialist movement, or any of the peace movements with which the Socialist party is connected, is an unqualified lie, whether made by Easley, Spargo or Walling. The Socialist party's sole source of income is party dues, the sale of party literature and the sale of special stamps. Since war was declared subscriptions to The American Socialist have been pouring in at the rate of nearly a thousand a day. This money comes in lots of ten cents, 25 cents, one dollar, up to ten dollars. Very rarely are any larger sums received.

The peace movement owes most of its strength to the ardent championship of one Woodrow Wilson, prior to April 2, 1917. Up to that time he was, outwardly, the strongest champion of peace. His words and his writings are still the mainstay of strength to the peace movement.

We can not all of us change our most fundamental moral convictions with the shedding of a coat.

Grab And Plunder

Joseph L. Bristow, former United States senator from Kansas, has set the prairies of his home state afire with discussion over his recent utterances in Washington.

Bristow is now chairman of the Kansas public utilities commission and went to the nation's capital to represent his state in the freight advance case pending before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Following his arrival in Washington he wired back to his paper, the Salina Journal, his view of conditions in the national capital regarding the war. Washington, he said, was overrun with people who were trying to "get their share of loot in this period of grab and plunder." He discovered that "cupidity and greed, glowering appetites for pillage and plunder, vain desire for pomp and gold laced parade, unrestrained conviviality, which arouses the latent passion for rapine and destruction," were there.

This has resulted in the Kansas jingoes starting a movement to oust Bristow from his job as public utilities commissioner. Perhaps he will be made to crawl after the fashion of Mayor Thompson of Chicago.

Bristow airs his views on the conscription law in the Salina Journal, under the heading, "The Infamous It Should Be Obedied," as follows:

"We have no sympathy with the desperate efforts the administration and the munitions interests behind it are making to popularize this infamous law by proclaiming the day (Registration Day), of its execution as a holiday and a day of rejoicing. We feel it should be a day of mourning. It marks the day when our country departs from the time honored policy of appealing to the patriotism of the people to support the military necessities of their government. It is the day when military service is ordered by an imperial edict instead of being offered as a patriotic sacrifice by the citizen of a free country who loves his Nation."

"It is alleged we are fighting to destroy the tyranny of German militarism. Yet in so doing we are introducing the German military system into this country. The draft has been ordered by the legally constituted authorities and we must obey it. But in so doing we are not barred from exerting our greatest efforts to secure the repudiation of the men who have imposed this infamous system upon our country."

In a Washington dispatch to the Topeka Journal, May 31, ex-Senator Bristow was quoted as follows:

"The President, only faintly for war before the election, became an ardent champion afterwards. The mass of the people in all sections are against it. They have been plunged into it against their will and when the full weight of the extraordinary burden of taxation falls upon them, as inevitably it must, the political upheaval that will sweep the Nation will stagger and astound us."

"In Kansas, the people do not believe the conditions 'for the emergency' justifies the imposing of taxes in such gigantic proportions as Congress has done. They do not believe conscription necessary."

If Bristow has any more sound sense of the same kind we shall gladly give space to it. We know that none of the jingo dailies will.

Where there's life there's hope, some optimist suggests that at any rate this is the last war, a lot of us are going to have the pleasure of indulging in.

There was a time when war was fought with swords and lances and it was largely a question of heroism as to which side would win. Nowadays it is very much of a shell-game, as it were.

Strikes are the order of the day against the North American Packing Co., owned by big Chicago beef packers, notably J. Ogden Armour, at Buenos Aires, Argentine. The South American wage slaves seem to be less docile than their brothers in Chicago and other big food producing centers in the United States.

The Boston convention of the International Fur Workers' Convention adopted resolutions vigorously protesting against the action of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in refusing to send delegates to the Stockholm International Socialist Peace Conference. Let this voice of protest be heard.

"Why You Should Fight", by Irwin Tucker, will be issued as the July leaflet 10 cents per 100 Order Now! National Office, Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.